



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

For Immediate Release

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BROOKS LEADS GROUNDBREAKING FOR NEW ELEPHANT SPLASH POOL

Monroe County Executive **Maggie Brooks** today joined Seneca Park Zoo officials and the Zoo's SpokesKids for the groundbreaking of the Elephant Splash Pool. The pool is the final piece of the Elephant Exhibit.

"This is an exciting day for all of us, and for our community, as we officially break ground on the Elephant Splash Pool, which we are able to build thanks to the support of so many in our community," said Brooks. "The pool will enhance the quality of life for Genny C. and Lilac, while also giving visitors a close-up view of our two elephants as they play in the water."

Brooks also acknowledged the leadership and support of Rachel Baker August, Zoo Society Executive Director, and *Experience Great Things* community campaign co-chairs Gabe and Jean Dalmath. In December 2006, Brooks and Zoo officials decided to honor Gabe's memory by naming the splash pool's overlook after him. They unveiled a sign at the site reading "Future Home of the Elephant Splash Pool and Gabe Dalmath Elephant Overlook".

The Zoo's six SpokesKids served as Ambassadors for the Elephant Exhibit and now serve as Ambassadors for the Zoo. The SpokesKids take the message into their schools and communities that children and families can "experience great things" at Seneca Park Zoo.

About the African Elephant Exhibit

The Elephant Exhibit is located north of the Rocky Coasts exhibit. It includes a 10,000 square foot barn and a 22,000 square foot yard. The 1,000 square foot glass-enclosed Time Warner Cable Elephant Atrium provides year-round shelter from the weather and allows visitors to get a true sense of the "elephant experience" by seeing and hearing the elephants as they interact with their keepers. The Elephant Splash Pool is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2008.

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